

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 115011
ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 FEA-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00
INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05
DODE-00 ERDA-05 SS-15 COME-00 /090 R

DRAFTED BY OES/NET/RD:JACOON:LL
APPROVED BY OES/NET:LNOSENZO
L/OES - MR. BETTAUER
NEA/IRN - MR. NAAS
PM/NPP - MR. MCGUINNESS
ACDA - MR. RUST

-----191034Z 081939 /12

R 190127Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115011

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, TECH, ENRG, IR

SUBJECT: HEU EXPORTS TO IRAN

REF: (A) TEHRAN 4198 (B) STATE 105139

1. UNDER THE EXISTING AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION AS
AMENDED, USG CANNOT APPROVE EXPORTS OF HEU IN EXCESS OF
6 KG CEILING.

2. ON APRIL 27 THE ADMINISTRATION FORWARDED TO CONGRESS
PROPOSED LEGISLATION ENTITLED THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERA-
TION POLICY BILL OF 1977. THE BILL CONTAINS PROVISIONS
ON THE CONDITIONS WE WOULD REQUIRE IN NEW AGREEMENTS FOR
COOPERATION. HEARINGS ON THIS BILL ARE NOW UNDERWAY,
AND WE HOPE FOR EARLY PASSAGE. ONCE THE BILL IS PASSED,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 115011

WE EXPECT TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS WITH IRAN ON A NEW
BILATERAL AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION.

3. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, THE DRAFT AGREEMENT WHICH WAS
UNDER NEGOTIATION LAST YEAR WAS DESIGNED TO COVER BOTH
POWER AND RESEARCH REACTORS AND MATERIALS AND WAS IN-
TENDED TO SUPERSEDE OUR EARLIER AGREEMENTS. WE BELIEVE

THAT PROCEEDING ALONG THESE LINES WILL BE THE MOST EXPEDITIOUS WAY TO MEET IRANIAN NEEDS FOR FUEL. HOWEVER,

EVEN WHEN AN AGREEMENT IS CONCLUDED, THE GUIDELINES OUTLINED IN PARA 4, REF B WILL CONTINUE TO APPLY FOR HEU AND WERE, INDEED, FOLLOWED IN THE EUROPEAN AND JAPANESE HEU EXPORT CASES REFERRED TO IN REF A, I.E., PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL WAS OBTAINED.

4. THE PRESIDENT'S CONCERN ABOUT INVENTORIES OF HEU ABROAD IS THE REASON BEHIND THESE GUIDELINES. GROWING VOLUME OF HEU IN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE POSES A SPECIAL RISK AS IT IS READILY USABLE IN NUCLEAR WEAPONS. SUCH AN APPROACH IS NOT MEANT TO IMPUGN THE NON-PROLIFERATION INTENTIONS OR QUESTION THE MOTIVES OF COUNTRIES LIKE IRAN. WE ARE CONFIDENT GOI RECOGNIZES THE SERIOUS PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE WIDESPREAD USE OF HEU, PARTICULARLY THE POSSIBILITY OF TERRORIST SEIZURE. IT ALSO IS ADMINISTRATION POLICY TO UNDERTAKE EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY PROJECTS AND FACILITIES WHICH MIGHT BE CONVERTED TO THE USE OF LOWER ENRICHMENT LEVELS OF U-235. THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF SUCH A PROGRAM ARE CURRENTLY UNDER STUDY.

5. IN THE MEANTIME, AS NOTED IN PARA 5 REF B, APPLICATION WILL BE KEPT IN SUSPENSE. GENERAL ATOMIC APPLIED FOR THIS INCREASED QUANTITY OF HEU IN ORDER TO REPLACE EXISTING TYPE FUEL ELEMENTS IN TEHRAN RESEARCH REACTOR WITH TRIGA-TYPE FUEL AND STEP UP POWER LEVEL FROM 5 TO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 115011

10 MW. REFUELING IS SCHEDULED FOR MID-1978, BUT GENERAL ATOMIC FILED APPLICATION WELL IN ADVANCE SINCE MANUFACTURE OF FUEL ELEMENTS NORMALLY TAKES ABOUT ONE YEAR AND GENERAL ATOMIC WOULD PREFER LICENSE APPROVAL BEFORE STARTING MANUFACTURE.

6. SHOULD THE GOI RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT DELAY IN APPROVAL OF THE HEU EXPORT LICENSE, YOU MAY POINT OUT PROBLEM OF CEILING IN PRESENT AGREEMENT AND OUR EXPECTATION THE ISSUE WILL BE ADDRESSED IN NEGOTIATIONS FOR NEW BILATERAL. YOU MAY ALSO PROVIDE BACKGROUND CONTAINED IN PARA 4 ABOVE ON OUR NON-PROLIFERATION CONCERNS ASSOCIATED WITH HEU. CHRISTOPHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: URANIUM, NUCLEAR ENERGY, EXPORTS, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE115011
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JACCOON:LL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770178-0479
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770539/aaaabhfr.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f7d0cc8f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TEHRAN 4198, 77 STATE 105139
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2448334
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HEU EXPORTS TO IRAN
TAGS: PARM, TECH, ENRG, IR, US
To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f7d0cc8f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009